

## ABSTRACT

Methods and apparatus are provided for minimizing the inherent time delays within external defibrillators and allowing operators to administer CPR therapy as close in time as possible to the delivery of a defibrillation shock to a patient. The methods and apparatuses utilize timing schemes for initiation and completion of charging or maintaining the charge of an energy storage device of an external defibrillator for at least a portion of a predetermined CPR therapy delivery time.